



LWML

LINK



*Together  
Serving  
The Lord  
With  
Gladness  
For  
79 Years*



**Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,**

***“Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage! The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man;” Psalm 33:12-13***

In June, I attended the LWML 40th Biennial National Convention in Milwaukee, WI. along with 32 members from the LWML Eastern District. The theme was “Celebrate the Lord of the Nations”.

I had always enjoyed attending national conventions as a delegate, but being there as the President of the LWML Eastern District added a new dimension to my experience. The beautiful Eastern District Banner was designed and made by Kathy Pavelock. It was an emotional and proud moment when YWR Sarala Vunnam carried the banner and YWR Meg Klees and I accompanied her down the aisle. The Flags of the Nations procession included Roselyn Kamara, Meg Klees, Sarala Vunnam and Beth Quinn.

The Bible Studies, Mission speakers, Mite Walk, and exhibits were amazing. A \$2,350,000 mission goal was adopted for the 2023-2025 biennium. This goal will fund 31 mission grants.

I had the honor of presiding over the Pinning Ceremony for our Young Women Representatives Meg and Sarala. I was also invited to the Heart-to-Heart Luncheon and Pinning Ceremony where Roselyn Kamara was named as our second Heart-to-Heart District Leader from the Philadelphia Zone. I ask you to pray for these women as they “serve the Lord with gladness”!

The Philadelphia Zone is busy with preparations for the Fall Retreat which will be held at Pioneer on the Lake, September 22-24. Eastern District President John Pingel will be our speaker. If you are planning to attend, reservations must be postmarked by August 25.

Kathy Ippolito and I attended the Genesee Zone Spring Rally and presented sessions from the Assembly of Leaders materials. Pastor Carl Emberger and I attended the Philadelphia Spring Fling on May 6th and also presented training sessions from the Assembly of Leaders materials.

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please contact me by phone or email.

Blessings to you,

Dee E. Grzyb  
LWML Eastern District President



***“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.” Jeremiah 29:11***


**COUNSELOR'S  
CORNER**


I'm fortunate that I have the opportunity and the privilege to fill in at vacant congregations getting to know the people and participate in special events.

In June I was privileged to serve at Faith Easton and to perform the Rite of Confirmation for four youth. The gospel reading for that week was from Matthew 9:9–13, this is when Jesus invited Matthew to follow him.

To bring the awesome power of an invitation into perspective I drew parallels between Matthew and Ebenezer Scrooge. Yes, my mind works in strange ways.

Scrooge was a miserly old man who had no problem with underpaying his workers. Matthew most likely had no problem overcharging people the amount owed for taxes. Both had a love for money, both had a position of authority in which they could serve others, however, they both most likely only served themselves.

As we know from the story, Scrooge was not liked, although his nephew Fred did try to reach out to him and invite him to Christmas dinner, no one was interested in being in his presence. We can be assured that Matthew was not liked as well. The obvious reason was gouging the people when collecting taxes. It was a well-known practice of tax collectors in Roman times. He was also a Jew serving the Romans in an official position. Perhaps for this he would have been even more despised, a collaborator with the occupying Romans. To the Jewish authorities Matthew may have been considered a chief of sinners, worst of the worst.

The third parallel we could draw between Scrooge and Matthew would be an amazing change of heart because of an invitation. An invitation to surrender everything that was evil in their life. An invitation to surrender essentially everything they had loved, that would hinder them from being of worthy service to others. An invitation to surrender everything that could not be carried over into Christ's Kingdom.

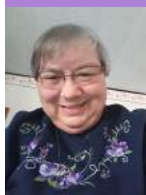
In calling Matthew, a tax collector, to follow Him, Jesus demonstrates that He had come "*not to call the righteous, but sinners*" (Matt. 9:9, 13). As a good physician, He comes not to verify their sinfulness, but to heal them with His grace, calling them to repentance, faith and a new life (Matt. 9:12). The same invitation is extended to each of us.

While waiting for our flight home from the LWML Convention I overheard an invitation. I could here one of our sisters sharing about the LWML and what makes the LCMS distinct.

It's exciting and uplifting to know that we have bold women in Christ willing to share the Good News of the Gospel when the opportunity arises.

May God continue to bless the women who engage with the mission and stand firm in the faith. Emboldened to reach out with an invitation to experience the life changing love of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Rev. Carl Emberger, Junior Pastoral Counselor**


**NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF CHRISTIAN LIFE/SPECIAL FOCUS—LINDA BAHR**


Dear Followers of Christ,

During this Pentecost Season many of us are preparing to be renewed and refreshed by the Spirit. By now we have returned from the 40th Biennial LWML Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on June 22-25, 2023. We celebrated the Lord of the Nations through worship, prayer, song and fellowship.

Let us pause and meditate on the Words of Christ: "*I am the vine; you are the branches*" -- **John 15:5**. We come together in His name, and as His followers we can be extensions of His love to others throughout our lives. May we branch out both at the convention and at home and glorify His name as the Lord of the Nations.



**Linda Bahr—VP of Christian Life/Special Resources**

## NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF GOSPEL OUTREACH/ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES – SUSAN BELL



The work of the Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources Department is to engage, encourage and equip women to share their faith in Jesus Christ, their loving Savior with people of their communities and the world.



**THE 2022-2024 GOSPEL OUTREACH/ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**  
**Vice President of Gospel Outreach/Organizational Resources – Susan Bell**  
**Mission Grants Chair – Susan Morris; Mission Grants Co-Chair – Margaret Klees**  
**Leader Development Chair – Cathie Geske; Leader Development Co-Chair – Vacant**  
**Structure Chair – Terry Hoffman; Structure Co-Chair – Darlene Garcia**  
**Stamp Coordinator – Karen Blackmon; Nominating Committee Chair – Susan Bell**  
 (Contact information is on page 13 of this LINK)

## MISSION GRANT NEWS

**LWML National Mission Grant Update**

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League has announced that the mission goal of \$2,150,000 has been reached...and surpassed! As of March 2023, the mites collected totaled \$2,436,121.35! To God goes all the glory that we can pay all the grants that were selected in Lexington, KY. The Lutheran Women in Mission voting body adopted a \$2,350,000 mission goal for the 2023–2025 biennium. This goal, by the grace of God, will fund 31 mission grants, as women and men respond in prayer and mite offerings during the next two years. Check out the 2023-2025 Mission Grants Selected at the 2023 LWML Convention on the LWML website [lwml.org](http://lwml.org)

**LWML Eastern District Mission Grants Update**

The LWML Eastern District has collected enough mites to pay grants 3 & 4 (due to a tie in voting at convention are being paid simultaneously)! Acknowledgement of Intent letters have been sent to each requestor for them to fill out and return prior to distribution of funds. We have received the necessary paperwork and have paid Grant 4, we are still waiting for the paperwork from Grant 3. As a reminder, LWML Eastern District Grant #3 is for \$5,000 to purchase & install a stair lift to assist the disabled and elderly to reach the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor for Worship & Fellowship at Christ Assembly Lutheran Church, Philadelphia, PA. Grant #4 is for \$5,000 to purchase food items for the Rose Café and the weekly outreach food pantry truck at the Lighthouse Women & Children Center, Niagara Falls, NY.

**2024 LWML Eastern District Mission Grant Applications**

Mission Grant Chairman Susan Morris and Co-Chairman Margaret Klees have been updating the *2024 Mission Grant Application Form and Guidelines*. It is time for each of us to begin praying for prospective district mission grants. The *Mission Grant Application and Guidelines* have been emailed to all Eastern District Board members, which included all Zone Presidents. The application and guidelines will also be posted on the LWML Eastern District website [www.east-dist-lwml.org](http://www.east-dist-lwml.org). Individual members, pastors, and ministries may request a copy of the application and guidelines by emailing Susan Morris at [morrissusan68@gmail.com](mailto:morrissusan68@gmail.com). There will also be an opportunity at the Fall Retreat for assistance with your grant.

**Most importantly, the deadline for submission is October 15, 2023.**

← APPLY NOW FOR MISSION GRANTS

## NEWS FROM THE STRUCTURE COMMITTEE



Zones, please review your bylaws periodically. If you need to make changes, please send a copy to Terry Hoffman so Darlene Garcia and I can review them for you. The contact information is listed below:

Terry Hoffman – Chair  
 4181 Church Road  
 Lockport, NY 14094  
 716-255-2612  
[terryhoffman1979@gmail.com](mailto:terryhoffman1979@gmail.com)

Darlene Garcia – Co-Chair  
 105 Entwood Lane  
 Butler, PA 16002  
 724-841-7697  
[garciaDarlene48@gmail.com](mailto:garciaDarlene48@gmail.com)

Updated District Bylaws are on our website. They can be found at the following link: [www.east-dist-lwml.org](http://www.east-dist-lwml.org) and clicking on **2022 LWML Eastern District Bylaws**.

## NEWS FROM THE LEADER DEVELOPMENT CHAIRMAN—CATHIE GESKE



We were excited to have two Young Women Representatives representing the LWML Eastern District at the national convention in Milwaukee. Our YWRs were Meg Klees from the Anthracite Zone and Sarala Vunnam from the Philadelphia Zone. Watch the next issue of the LINK for more detailed information about them and their time at convention.



## NOMINATING COMMITTEE NEWS

The Nominating Committee is currently accepting nominations for the following offices of the LWML Eastern District to be voted on at the June 2024 convention in Pittsburgh, PA:



**Vice President of Communication**  
**District Recording Secretary**  
**District Financial Secretary**  
**District Pastoral Counselor**

All offices serve a four-year term. Any LWML member may nominate a candidate for office. For Nominating Forms please e-mail Susan Bell at sbell\_7238@comcast.net. You are encouraged to contact your nominee before you send us a Nominating Form, however the Nominating Committee is also ready to serve by making the initial contact. Nominees, except the Pastoral Counselor, should be members of the LWML and have served on the LWML Board of Directors (this includes district committees and zone presidents).

Members of the Nominating Committee are: Susan Bell, Chair; Bev Wicher, Margaret Klees, Anita Getty and Chris Gasslein. Thank you for your service, ladies!

## NEWS FROM THE VP COMMUNICATION—SHARON WOLFF



Today as I sit and write this article, it is Holy Trinity Sunday. I love singing songs that include all three persons of the Holy Trinity and hearing the verses in the Bible that speak to each of them. I love knowing that I have a Father, who is GOD, who loves me unconditionally and that Jesus came to this earth as man and of God to rescue us from our sinful natures and all the sins that we commit and have committed and will commit. The Holy Spirit speaks to me and guides me as I discern God's word and as I try in all my humanness to follow the pathway that God has set me on. This coming July I will end my 2nd 2-year term as President of my congregation here in Batavia and next June I will

have completed my 4-year term as your VP of Communication of the LWML Eastern District. I wonder now where He will lead me. Where will I be most useful and be able to still grow in my faith and service to our Loving Lord?

- ◆ I had the opportunity to attend and have returned from the convention in Milwaukee! There were so many opportunities to worship, go to Bible study and to just create new connections with others!
- ◆ And then of course there is Fall Retreat.....I encourage you to get your registrations in! **Our Eastern District President of the LCMS, Pastor Pingle, is our speaker!** And there are plenty of opportunities to reconnect with those we don't see on a regular basis and also to create new connections! **Deadline for registration is August 25.**
- ◆ If you have any changes in the LWML Eastern District Directory, please email me those changes. Please feel free to email me any prayers of concerns or thanks that can be shared in the District.
- ◆ I will close with Paul's advice to the church in Corinth in his second letter "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all."

**Sharon Wolff, VP of Communication**

*May the grace of the Lord  
 Jesus Christ and the love  
 of God and the fellowship  
 of the Holy Spirit be with  
 you all.  
 2 Corinthians 13:14 ESV*

*The mission of the Eastern District Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of the district in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world*

## NEWS FROM THE SPECIAL FOCUS COMMITTEE—DIANE OLMSTEAD

## DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING MINISTRY

In past LINK issues, the Heart to Heart – Sisters of All Nations, has been shared. In this issue we are highlighting another Special Focus Ministry – Deaf and Hard of Hearing.



One of the mission grants of the LWML Eastern District 2018-2020 biennium has enriched worship at Trinity Deaf Lutheran Church, situated ten minutes from Pittsburgh PA. Funds enabled the purchase of audiovisual equipment such as a laptop computer, projector, and sound equipment. Vicar Vincent Mroz uses this equipment to provide visuals for songs, parts of the worship service and Biblical teaching. The music that is produced with the audio equipment is louder with a lower range that allows the worshippers to feel the music. Rev. Ronald Bright states, "It is a wonderful setup. The worshippers have responded very favorably to the new equipment. Thanks be to God and the generous ladies at LWML."

The LCMS Ministry to and with People who are Deaf notes that "People who are deaf may have supportive families and friends; however, they are often the only person in the family with a hearing disability. This may lead the person to feel alone, even among so many individuals. Ministry that invites and involves the community of people who are deaf can bring a sense of belonging to the deaf person."



Visit the Lutheran Deaf Mission Society at <https://deafjesus.org/html/about.html> if you are interested in more information about this important ministry.

Also check out the LWML national website for resources <https://www.lwml.org/special-ministries>. Scroll down to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing section. Learn how you can reach out to those Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

MISSION GRANTS—  
A GLOBAL ADVENTURE

Dear Member of the Eastern District,

Soon it will be October 15, 2023, and your applications for Mission Grant Proposals will be due.

- Is anyone in your zone or church looking for grant funding?
- Do you know of an organization that you believe would qualify for a grant?
- Have you asked your pastor for ideas for mission grant ideas?
- Have you started writing a grant and are unsure how to word it?

**The Eastern District is willing to assist you!**  
**Join us as we take you on the "Mission Grants—A Global Adventure." Trip!**  
**You need this program!**

We will emphasize the impact supporting mission grants have had throughout LWML's existence.

A review of the district grant application process, advice on writing a grant, and a Q&A session will all be included.



**Join us via Zoom on August 10th at 7:00 PM.**

Susan Morris, the chairman of Mission Grants. Margaret Klees, Mission Grants co-chair, and grant writing expert Cathie Geske, the chair of Leader Development, will present the event.

**Any questions and to RSVP (BY AUGUST 3) please contact,**  
Margaret Klees at <mailto:margaretklees@gmail.com>



**LWML Eastern District Fall Retreat  
September 22-24, 2023  
Pioneer on the Lake, Angola NY**



The ladies of the Philadelphia Zone are hosting the 2023 Fall Retreat under the theme “Encourage One Another” based on Hebrews 10:25 *‘not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.’* (Hebrews 10:25 ESV)

We are excited to be returning to Pioneer On The Lake this fall for our LWML Retreat. It will be great to see the sunsets on Lake Erie, walk the trails, breathe in the fresh fall air, and worship in the outdoor chapel. As you probably know, Pioneer is under new management and **here comes change**.

**WHAT IS NEW:**

- New name: - Pioneer on the Lake**
- Full-time only registrations (NO PART-TIME)**
- One price for all accommodations** no surcharge for refurbished cabins
- Need to bring towels and linens (pillows and blankets provided)
- No Zipline

**What has NOT changed**

- Awesome Speaker
- Interest Session Variety
- Cooks parade
- Quiet place to unplug
- Sunday worship in the outdoor chapel (weather permitting)
- Fantastic fellowship
- Opportunity to learn and grow

As registration is different this year with only full-time and one price for all accommodations a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> choice method is being used to accommodate all registrants’ housing preferences. Detail instructions are on the registration form. Also note that Pioneer on the Lake charges a surcharge (\$40) for single occupancy. Minimum occupancy requirements are noted on the registration form. Cabin configurations are included in this LINK issue.

**Registration deadline is August 25<sup>th</sup> (postmarked by August 25<sup>th</sup>).**

**Thank you all who have registered for the upcoming fall. Currently we have 48 people registered. Our goal is 100. Things to keep in mind if you have not registered yet:**

- All the Woodland Cottages and Karkau Lodge have been taken
- Make sure to identify 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices
- A registration form is needed for each person (even your spouse if he/she is coming)
- August 1st is the deadline to submit a campership application (see page xx in this LINK)
- August 25th is the registration deadline
- August 25th is the deadline to pay your balance if applicable



**SPEAKER:**



We are pleased to have an opportunity to meet our newly elected Eastern District President **The Reverend John L. Pingel**. He will speak three times throughout the weekend and has agreed to have a meet and greet as one of our interest sessions. President Pingel previously served as pastor of Salem Lutheran Church in South Buffalo and Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania. More details on President Pingel can be found in the 2023 Spring LINK.

**THE INGATHERING** is monetary donations for furnishings at Pioneer on The Lake.

**INTEREST SESSIONS** - can attend more than one

- ED President Rev. John Pingel** – meet and greet
- Servant Event at Pioneer** – still finalizing activity
- Grants Tune up** – review of mission grant proposals before October 15, 2023 deadline
- Tai Chi on the beach** – tentative – see want ad in the LINK
- Free Time**—Naps, walk the trails



**LWML Totes** – how many do you have in your collection? The tote bags may be from national or district conventions, special trainings like Assembly of Leaders, or LWML district retreats or Zone events. Plan to bring a tote with you to retreat this fall. The host committee will be providing totes for first timers and others who do not have an LWML tote.

**SATURDAY NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT**



Ladies First Quartet is a female acapella singing quartet. They sing 4-part harmony in the barbershop style and do a wide range of songs from classic love songs from the 1940s to jazzy, contemporary upbeat songs. They are members of the Buffalo Gateway Chorus which is currently ranked 10<sup>th</sup> world-wide of over 550 choruses within Sweet Adeline’s International. Their quartet competes annually on a regional basis and has been singing all over Western New York for 10 years.

**LWML RETREAT CAMPSHIP—APPLICATION**

A few full-time camperships are being offered for the Fall 2023 retreat to first-time attendees or for those individuals having financial need. If you have received a campership in the past you are no longer eligible. The value of the campership is the full cost of the retreat at the full-time registration fee. If you desire a campership and need only consideration for part-time status, please indicate that in your application. An impartial committee will select from those eligible campers who submit a timely application. Notification will take place after the deadline date. Don't delay, act now!

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ **Dee Grzyb** \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zone \_\_\_\_\_  
 LWML Member? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Please write a brief narrative (50-100 words) on why you would like to attend the LWML Retreat. Attach your written statement to this application and mail by **August 1, 2023** to:

Mrs. Dee Grzyb  
 56 Hanover St.  
 Lancaster, NY 14086

All recipients names will be kept strictly confidential

**CABIN CONFIGURATION**

Schroeter's Circle Dorm Housing		Woodland Cottages All have pull out sofa		Family Court Some have a/c		Founders Court		Karkau Lodge	
Cabin #	Can sleep	Cabin #	Can sleep	Cabin #	Can sleep	Cabin #	Can sleep	Cabin #	Can sleep
1	20	9 Q + 2 bunksets	8	14 1 Q + 2 bunkbeds	6	25 1 single	1	0 1 Q + 2 bunkset	6
2	20	10 Q + 2 bunksets	8	15 1 F + 2 bunksets	5	26 2 twins	2		
3	20	11 Q + 2 bunksets	8	16 1 Q + 2 bunksets	6	27 2 twins	2		
4	20	12 Q + 2 bunksets	8	17 1 Q	2	28 2 twins	2		
5	18	13 Q + 2 bunksets	6	18 4 twns (2 bunkset)	4	29 2 twins	2		
6	20			19 1 Q	2	30 2 twins	2		
7	20	9-12 HAVE SOFA BEDS		20 4 twns (2 bunkset)	4	31 2 twins	2		
8	20			21 1 Full	1	32 2 twins	2		
				22 4 twns (2bunkset)	4	33 2 twins	2		
				23 1 Q + bunk t/d	5	34 2 twins	2		
ALL ABOVE ARE SINGLE BUNKS – 2 BATHROOMS IN EACH DORM AREA		WINTERIZED		24 1 Q + bunk t/d	5	35 2 bunksets	4		
				23 and 24 UPGRADED & WINTERIZED		36 2 bunksets	4		
ALL NEW MATTRESSES		ALL NEW MATTRESSES		ALL NEW MATTRESSES		37 – NOT A CABIN		ALL NEW MATTRESSES	
						38 1 Q + 1 bunkset	4		
		FULL SERVICE KITCHENS APPLIANCES, COOKWARE DISHES, GLASSWARE, ETC		SMALL FRIDGES IN ALL		39 1 Q + 1 bunkset	4		
		#13 has no SOFABED		1 Bunk set = 2 twin beds		40 1 Q + 1 bunkset	4	FULL KITCHEN & A/C APPLIANCES, COOKWARE DISHES, GLASSES, ETC.	
				2 Bunk set = 4 twin beds		41 1 Q + 1 bunkset	4		
						42 1 Q + sofabed	4		
						43 1 Q + sofabed	4		
						44 1 Q + sofabed	4		
						45 1 Q	2		
				17-22 connecting rooms		25-36 NO FRIDGES			
						38-45 HAVE FRIDGES			
TOTAL	158	TOTAL	38	TOTAL	44	TOTAL	56	TOTAL	6
TOTAL CAMP CAPACITY	approx. 302								

1 bunk set-2 twin bed 2 bunk sets—4 twin beds 1 bunk t/d—twin bed over a double bed

*Serve the Lord With Gladness*

**LWML Eastern District Retreat 2023**  
**Pioneer On the Lake**  
**September 22-24, 2023**



**"Encourage One Another" Hebrews 10:25**  
**Speaker: ED President John Pingel**  
**Hosted by Philadelphia Zone**

Name:		LWML Zone:	
Address:		Home Church:	
City:		Church City & Zip:	
State:	Zip:	Phone: ( )	Email:

**If this is your FIRST TIME attending Eastern District Retreat, please check here:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes! I'm very excited!**

<b>FULL - TIME ONLY</b>	<b>FULL TIME (NO PART-TIME)</b>		
	> <b>Registration Per Person includes:</b>	\$190.00	\$
	<b>Registration Fee, 2 Nights Lodging, 5 Meals, Blanket, Pillow</b>		
	Need to bring linens, pillow case and towels, pillow optional		
	> <b>Late Fee if postmarked after Aug 25, 2023</b>	\$ 25.00	\$
> <b>Single Occupancy - One person in minimum 2 person cabin</b>	\$ 40.00	\$	
<b>NOTE:</b>	A \$50.00 minimum deposit is required with Full-Time Registration		
	<b>Payment Enclosed</b>	\$	
	<b>Balance Due</b>	\$	

**ADDITIONAL NOTI**

- > If single occupancy is requested, an additional fee of \$40 is required (set by Pioneer) +++ notation
- > Canine Policy - the person/family must contact Pioneer on the Lake to request policy and pay the fee (\$100) for the canine that is accompanying the person/family to retreat.
- > If this applies to you - note it under Special Needs later on this form.
- > Mini Fridges are noted below with **MF** notation
- > Woodland Cottages and Karkau Lodge have full kitchen

**1 Bunk Set = 2 twin beds, 2 Bunk Set = 4 twin beds, 1 Bunk Set T/D = twin on the top, double on bottom**  
**Please select 1st, 2nd, 3rd choice on lodging below. If preference isn't given decision made by registrar.**

<b>LODGING</b>	<b>Standard Cabins:</b>
	Founders Court Cabins 26 - 36 (2 Twins, 2 Occupants +++)
	Schroeter Circle 1-8 (Each Cabin has 10 Bunk Set with exception of #5 - 9 Bunk Set, 18-20 occupants +++)
	<b>Deluxe Cabins:</b>
	Founders Court 38-41 (Queen Bed & One Bunk Set, 4 Occupants +++ ) + <b>MF</b>
	Founders Court 42-44 (Queen Bed & One Sofa Bed, 4 Occupants +++ ) + <b>MF</b>
	Founders Court 45 (Queen Bed, 2 Occupants +++ ) + <b>MF</b>
	Family Court 14 (Handicap Accessible - Queen Bed, 2 Occupants +++ , Medical) + <b>MF</b>
	Family Court 15 (Double Bed, & 2 Bunk Set, 5 Occupants +++ ) + <b>MF</b>
	Family Court 16 (Queen Bed & 2 Bunk Set, 6 Occupants +++ ) + <b>MF</b>
	Family Court 17, 19 (Queen Bed, 2 Occupants +++ ) + <b>MF</b>
	Family Court 21 (Full Bed, 1 Occupant) + <b>MF</b>
	Family Court 18, 20, 22 (2 Bunk Set, 4 Occupants +++ ) + <b>MF</b>
	Family Court 23, 24 (Double Bed & Bunk Set T/D, 5 Occupants +++ ) + <b>MF</b>
	Woodland Cottages 9-13 (Queen Bed, 2 Bunk Set, living room, dining room, kitchen, pull out sofa in 9-12 +++ )
Karkau Lodge (Queen + 2 Bunk Sets kitchen, AC, Living Room, microwave, fridge, 6 occupants +++ )	

**ROOMMATE(S):**

**CHURCH/GROUP:**

<b>SPECIAL NEEDS</b>	Special Needs:		Lower Bunk:
	Hearing Impaired:	Other:	Dietary:

**NOTES:**

- > **Registration deadline August 25, 2023 (Postmarked no later than Aug. 25)**
- > Balance due must be paid (postmarked) by Aug. 25, 2023 or incur \$25 late fee
- > All requests are on a first come, first served basis.
- > **No registrations accepted before May 1, 2023. Must be postmarked no earlier than May 1st.**

**CANCELLATIONS:** THE \$50 Full-time Deposit is Non-refundable. Cancellation for **MEDICAL REASONS** will be reviewed based upon a written letter of notification to the Eastern District President.

**PAYMENT** \*\*\*Make checks payable to: **LWML Eastern District**\*\*\*

**NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS FEE:** A charge of \$25.00 will be assessed on all checks returned by the bank.

\*MAIL completed REGISTRATON FORM, PAYMENTS & SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE (for return confirmation)  
**Sue Morris** 3301 Hartford Court, Newtown Square, PA 19073 morrissusan68@gmail.com 215-514-8678 (m)

\*Registrations sent without stamped envelope will receive an email confirmation\*



# News From Around The Zones

## BUFFALO ZONE

The Buffalo Zone met April 29 at Salem, Springville, NY for their Spring event. After a delicious breakfast provided by the ladies of Salem we gathered to hear about the work of Stephen Ministries followed by a presentation on maintaining boundaries by Jennifer Klein, a local counselor in the area. We also enjoyed singing with Salem's praise band.



Look for information coming out on our Summer picnic and our Fall event.

**Sharon Wolff, Buffalo Zone President**



the education classes that are offered. Then can use the points they earned to get the baby items. This helps the parents grow in the knowledge of how to care for a baby and helps them with the financial means to help support their precious child.

After the quick and informative meeting session we got to do what we all really love about LWML being the 'hands and feet of Jesus!' JOYSHOP was another time the Pittsburgh Zone would meet to do a special project to bring Christ's name to others around us! These two events are now done at the same time. So it was decided since we had an in gathering for Choices Pregnancy Services we could write encouragement notes to mothers! We also added a St. Luke Encouragement Baskets that is then given out to a family with new bundles blessing in the Butler Health System. These baskets come with a large blank notecard to say a few words to them. This is a quiet event, they quietest event I have ever seen for a group of talkative ladies. We were focused on getting the correct wording. So people like me needed the example words that were provided! Thank you Diane and Mary for these example pages you provided!



## 2ND ANNUAL MITE WALK



The Holy Cross Women in Mission from Holy Cross, Clarence NY held their 2nd annual Mite walk supporting the mission work of the LWML On a lovely Sunday after church 21 adults and children walked the parking lot and



raised \$1,046. What an easy and fun way to raise money for to support our Mission Grants.

**Bev Wicher, Holy Cross**

## PITTSBURGH ZONE

### Spring Rally / JOYSHOP/ 80th Anniversary SAVE the DATE



The Pittsburgh Zone gathered at Prince of Peace, Freedom April 22, 2023. for their Spring Rally/JOYSHOP. The ladies enjoyed a wonderful bible study led by the Rev. Sean Walters on the book of Esther. It gives us might that even though the book of Esther doesn't mention God's name or have any direct words or prayers from Him, you can see God's work through the whole encounter. We see how Esther trusted God to save her family. We too can be strong with God as we continue to serve Him today!

The ladies of Prince of Peace served a wonderful spread of delicious food for us. The tables were decorative and inviting. The conversation was God pleasing and uplifting!



Our In-Gathering that day was for Choices Pregnancy Services. We prayed and offered many gifts for them that day. The total monetary gift was \$165. Also we collected two 3 and 1 baby thermometers, eight packages of different sized diapers, two small boxes of diapers, one large box of diapers, twenty-six bibs, thirteen books, eight totes, one pack of 3 onesies and four outfits. The great thing about the items collected is that the parents, not just the mom, can earn points through

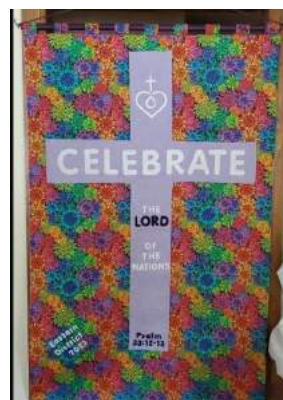


PLEASE mark your calendars, set your phone to alert you, tell someone....the LWML Eastern District Convention is set! JUNE 14-16, 2024. It will be the 80th year anniversary; do you know what to give someone on the 80th anniversary? Well you will find out next time. STAY TUNED for more info in the next LINK!

May God be your strength and guide until next time!

**BethAnn Salinas, 2nd Vice President,  
Pittsburgh Zone LWML**

## CONVENTION BANNER



The beautiful convention banner made by Kathy Pavelock expressing the theme of the convention "Celebrate the Lord of the Nations" with the cross as the focal point. The banner was carried in by YWR Sarala Vunnam accompanied by President Dee, along with YWR Meg Klees.

**PHILADELPHIA ZONE NEWS**

The Philadelphia Zone welcomed Dee Gryzb, LWML Eastern District President, and Jr. Counselor, Pastor Carl Emberger to our Spring Rally, Saturday May 6th at Holy Cross, Philadelphia. Dee and Pastor Carl shared “The Quest to Broadening Our Cultural Understanding” presentation. We also had an update from BEE Liberia (Olivia and Olive) and the progress they are making on the school in Liberia. The highlight was indoor plumbing! These topics are timely



as we convene in convention in June with sisters and brothers across the US under the theme Celebrate the Nations. The Rally Theme was God Loves our Differences, Bible Verse - Galatians 3:28. Our in-gathering was for Stenton Family Manor – Homeless Shelter for Women and Children, Philadelphia. Everyone was very generous. In the afternoon we assembled meal prayer cards for the retreat. Awesome workers in the field!



**Beth Quinn, Zone President**



**Memorials/Legacy of Love**

**Memori-**

**als/Honorariums  
Legacy of Love Endowment**

Do you ever think about how you could honor someone while they are still with us besides when they are called home? There are two options.

**Eastern District Memorial Fund  
Eastern District Legacy of Love Endowment**

The **Memorial Fund** is currently dedicated for use in funding the District’s Young Women Representative Program (YWR).

The **Legacy of Love Endowment** makes a lasting impact on the ministry of the LWML Eastern District. Your gifts of love are building a fund for the future which will provide for scholarships, leadership training, and District ministries.

Questions, please contact  
Rebecca Bessell,  
[RLB54@roadrunner.rr.com](mailto:RLB54@roadrunner.rr.com)  
or 585-415-6368



**UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

Sept. 22, 2023	EC Meeting Pioneer on the Lake
Sept. 22-24, 2023	Fall Retreat Pioneer on the Lake
Feb/March 2024	EC/BOD Pittsburgh PA
June 14-16, 2024	LWML ED Convention Pittsburgh, PA

**Report of the Financial Secretary—Barb Williams**

**Report of the Financial Secretary  
March 1, 2023 – May 31, 2023**

**Mites: \$ 7,237.59**

**Memorials and Honorariums**

**In Memory of Diane Caster**

Given By: LWML – Immanuel Lutheran Church,  
Tonawanda, NY

**In Memory of Esther Lexow**

Given By: LWML – Buffalo Zone

**Legacy of Love – In Memory of David Beehler**

Given By: Susan Bell  
Barbara Williams

**Legacy of Love – In Memory of Eunice Gardner**

Given By: Sharon Wolff

**Legacy of Love – in Honor of LWML and Eastern District**

Given By: Board of Directors  
Sharon Wolff

**Legacy of Love - Donations**

Given By: LWML – Buffalo Zone  
Salem Lutheran Church, Springville, NY  
Special Outreach Event

**Thrivent Choice Dollars – Allocated By:**

Linda Bright  
Don and Linda Gage

**In Need of Mite Boxes for your Society?**

They are available at any time by contacting Barbara Williams at [brwcpa421@aol.com](mailto:brwcpa421@aol.com) or by phone 716-417-4373.



Convention Highlights

*Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,  
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!  
The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man  
Psalm 33:12-13*

**40TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION IN MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN**

The Lutheran Women’s Missionary League, also known as Lutheran Women in Mission, welcomed over 3,500 people to their 40th biennial convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 22–25, 2023, under the theme “Celebrate the Lord of the Nations.” The convention theme was based on Psalm 33:12–13.

New Mission Goal \$2,350,000

**2023–2025 MISSION GOAL AND MISSION GRANTS**

The Lutheran Women in Mission voting body adopted a \$2,350,000 mission goal for the 2023–2025 biennium. This goal, by the grace of God, will fund 31 mission grants, as women and men respond in prayer and mite offerings during the next two years. The delegates also voted for new officers for the next biennium.



**PINNING OF YWRS**



**BANNER PROCESSION**



**EASTERN DISTRICT CAUCUS**



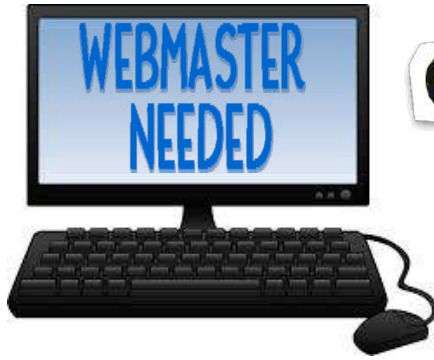
**CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS**



**MITE WALK**



**NEW DISTRICT H2H LEADER  
ROSELYN KAMARA**



Do you have computer, website and Social Media skills? We are in need of a new Webmaster to maintain our Website, Kathy Pavelock has served us for many years and we thank her for her time and service. The job description is listed below, please contact Dee if you are gifted in this area and willing to help in this position.

### **LWML Webmaster – Volunteer Position**

The Webmaster serves as the primary contact for all aspects of the LWML Eastern District website and social media platforms, handling a range of responsibilities that may include website and social media post design and development, routine site and content maintenance, and various updates to ensure the sites align with the mission, goals, and objectives of the LWML Eastern District. The webmaster serves on the Website & Social Media Committee with the Public Relations Director acting as chairman.

#### **General Duties**

- Serves as the primary contact for all aspects of the LWML Eastern District website and social media platforms.
- Develops and maintains the LWML Eastern District website and social media platforms in accordance with the organization's policies; collaborates with the Public Relations Director, VP of Communication, and other district officers for website and social media content.
- Monitors social media platforms for appropriate commentary and interactions.
- Encourages and facilitates consistent, creative, and unified design across the district website and social media platforms.
- Maintains and coordinates internet domains.
- Periodically evaluates website and social media effectiveness. Recommends changes to the Public Relations Director.
- Assists Eastern District Lutheran Women in Mission with use of the website and social media platforms through one-on-one support, user guides, and training sessions.
- Ensures compliance with LWML Eastern District policies, procedures, doctrinal reviews, and ethical standards; software licenses; and applicable state and federal laws and regulations including data security and privacy.
- Maintains current knowledge of best practices and emerging developments in web design, web development, and social media technology.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

#### **Required Skills/Abilities:**

- Working knowledge of web design, website management, and social media platforms.
- Knowledge of website and social media current best practices and standards.
- Proficient with HTML/CSS and graphic design of images used on websites and social media.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Proficient with Microsoft Office Suite and image manipulation applications or related software. Strong analytical, troubleshooting, and problem-solving skills.

If you are interested please contact Dee Grzyb – [d\\_e\\_grzyb@msn.com](mailto:d_e_grzyb@msn.com) or 716-901-4167.

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**Next Deadline**

Please send all news articles and information for publication to:

Bev Wicher  
 19 Vernon Drive  
 Cheektowaga, NY 14225  
 716-913-4140

E-mail: [lwmlink@gmail.com](mailto:lwmlink@gmail.com)

**The next deadline is September 1, 2023**

The Link is published four times each year.  
 April 1, July 1, October 1, January 1

**Deadlines to submit articles:**  
**March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1**

### LWML PRAYER SERVICE

#### MY SOUL REJOICES: A SERVICE OF SONG AND PRAYER



*But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy ... (Psalm 5:11a).*

The 2023 LWML Prayer Service, written by former LWML Pastoral Counselor Rev. Dr. Mitchel Schuessler (who spoke at our last LWML Eastern District Convention) of Clarinda, Iowa, will bless your heart and life as you join with your sisters and brothers in singing songs of prayer and praise to the Lord who continues to bless you daily. Singing familiar hymns, joining together in the Word, and spending time in prayer, individually and corporately, will help you recognize and give thanks for your God-given blessings. "My Soul Rejoices" is filled with hymns, the Word, and prayer. You can look forward to a joyous and uplifting worship service whether it is used in the congregation or the LWML district, zone, or group.

You can find all the information on the prayer service at this link <https://www.lwml.org/prayer-service>

**DID YOU SEE THE DEVOTION ON THE LWML WEBSITE [LWML.ORG](http://LWML.ORG), WRITTEN BY KATHY PAVELOCK?**



#### VACATION TIME

Last Wednesday was the first day of summer. Many of us take vacations at the end of June or the beginning of July. My husband and I normally spend the first two weeks of July at our cottage in Canada and that is our plan for this year, too! The break from the day-to-day routine is needed to rest, relax, and refresh. God knows we need to rest as He tells us, *And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done* (Genesis 2:2). Vacation also includes spending time in God's Word each day to refresh us as we rest and relax. As you prepare for your vacation, take along some printed [devotions](#) from the LWML website or have the daily Mustard Seed Devotions sent to your email by signing up [here](#). If you are vacationing away from home or having a "staycation," please take time to rest, relax and refresh — especially in God's Word!

**Kathy Pavelock**



**Vice President of Communication  
Lutheran Women's Missionary League**

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